

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully elects Group III, represented by claim 3 without traverse. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application for the non-elected claims at a later stage, depending on the results of examination of the elected claims.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert W. Downs (Reg. No. 48,222) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By


Terrell C. Birch, #19,382

TCB/RWD/lab
0020-4931P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000